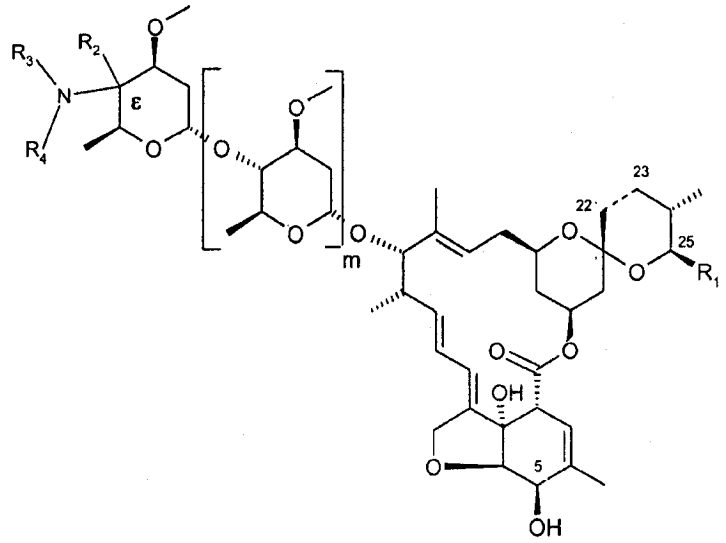
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend claims 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 without prejudice to the subject matter involved as indicated in the listing below. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended): A compound of the formula (I)



(I),

wherein the bond between carbon atoms 22 and 23 indicated with a broken line is a single or double bond,

m is 0 or 1,

R_1 represents a C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkyl or C_2-C_{12}alkenyl group,

R_2 represents an unsubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl or halogen-substituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl, unsubstituted C_3-C_8cycloalkyl or halogen-substituted C_3-C_8cycloalkyl, unsubstituted C_2-C_{12} alkenyl or halogen-substituted C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, unsubstituted C_2-C_8alkynyl or halogen-substituted C_2-C_8alkynyl or CN, and

R_3 is hydrogen, unsubstituted C_1-C_{12} alkyl or halogen-substituted C_1-C_{12} alkyl, unsubstituted C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl or halogen-substituted C_3-C_8 cycloalkyl, unsubstituted C_2-C_{12} alkenyl or halogen-substituted C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, unsubstituted C_2-C_8 alkynyl or halogen-substituted C_2-C_8 alkynyl, unsubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkoxy or halogen-substituted C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, unsubstituted

phenoxy, OH, ~~aryl~~phenyl, naphtyl, anthracenyl, phenanthrenyl, perylenyl or fluorenyl, ~~heterocyclyl~~piperidinyl, piperazinyl, oxiranyl, morpholinyl, thiomorpholinyl, pyridyl, N-oxidopyridinyl, pyrimidyl, pyrazinyl, s-triazinyl, 1,2,4-triazinyl, thienyl, furanyl, dihydrofuranyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, pyranyl, tetrahydropyranyl, pyrrolyl, pyrrolinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, imidazolinyl, thiazolyl, isothiazolyl, triazolyl, oxazolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolinyl, thiazolidinyl, oxadiazolyl, dioxaborolanyl, phthalimidoyl, benzothienyl, quinolinyl, quinoxalinyl, benzofuranyl, benzimidazolyl, benzpyrrolyl, benzthiazolyl, indolinyl, isoindolinyl, cumarinyl, indazolyl, benzothiophenyl, benzofuranyl, pteridinyl or purinyl, that are unsubstituted or substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, =O, -OH, =S, SH, nitro, C_1-C_6alkyl, C_1-C_6hydroxyalkyl, C_1-C_6alkoxy, C_1-C_6haloalkyl, C_1-C_6haloalkoxy, phenyl, benzyl, CN, $-N(R_5)_2$, $-SR_8$, $-S(=O)R_8$, $-S(=O)_2R_8$, or $-S(=O)_2N(R_5)_2$, where

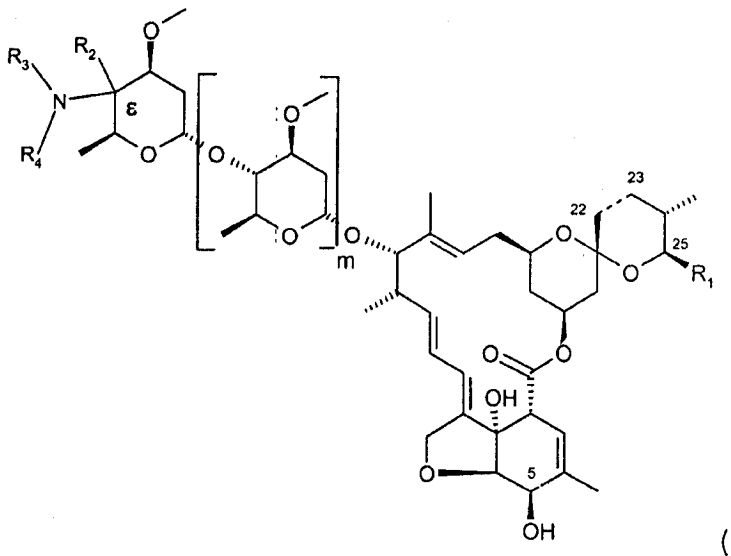
R_5 represents H, C_1-C_6 alkyl that is optionally substituted with one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_3-C_8-cycloalkoxy, hydroxy and cyano, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, C_3-C_8-cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{12} alkenyl, C_2-C_8 alkynyl, benzyl, or benzyl which, depending on the possibilities of substitution on the ring, are mono- to trisubstituted by substituents selected from the group consisting of OH, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_{12}haloalkyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, C_1-C_{12}haloalkoxy, C_1-C_{12}alkylthio and C_1-C_{12}haloalkylthio; and

R_8 represents C_1-C_6alkyl that is optionally substituted with one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_1-C_6 alkoxy, hydroxy, cyano and benzyl, or benzyl which, depending on the possibilities of substitution on the ring, are mono- to trisubstituted by substituents selected from the group consisting of OH, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1-C_{12} alkyl, C_1-C_{12} haloalkyl, C_1-C_{12} alkoxy, C_1-C_{12} haloalkoxy, C_1-C_{12} alkylthio and C_1-C_{12} haloalkylthio; and

R_4 is hydrogen, unsubstituted C_1-C_{12} alkyl, unsubstituted C_3-C_{12} cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{12} alkenyl or C_2-C_{12} alkynyl;

or either R_2 and R_3 together or R_3 and R_4 together represent a three- to seven-membered alkylene or a four- to seven-membered alkenylene bridge, for each of which at least one, preferably a CH_2 group may be replaced by O, S or NR_6, where R_6 represents hydrogen ~~or a hydrocarbyl group or a substituted hydrocarbyl group~~; or, if appropriate, an E/Z isomer and/or tautomer of the compound of formula (I), in each case in free form or in salt form.

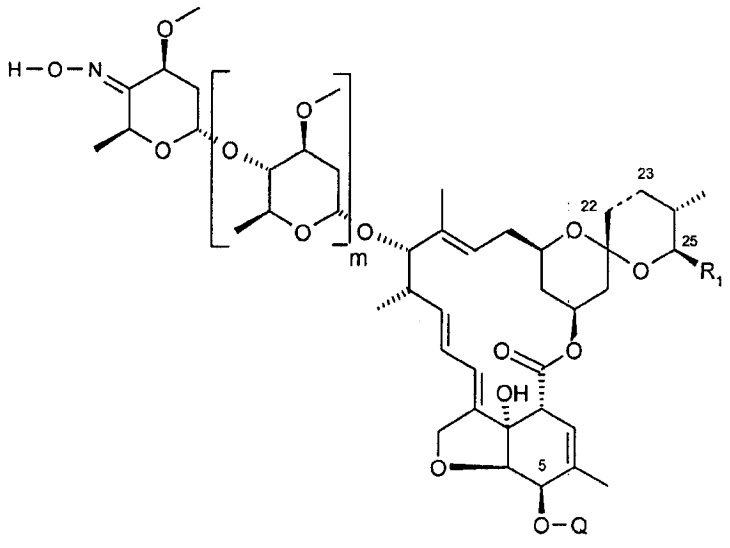
2. (Currently amended): A process for preparing a compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, the bond between the carbon atoms 22 and 23 and m are as defined in claim 1, comprising the steps of:

(i) synthesizing a compound of formula (α)



(α)

wherein R_1, the bond between the carbon atoms 22 and 23 and m are as defined for formula (I) in claim 1 and Q is a protecting group;

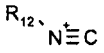
(ii) reacting a disulfide, an aliphatic or aromatic phosphine and a compound of formula (α) to yield a sulfenimine derivative of the compound of formula (α);

(iii) oxidising the sulfenimine derivative of the compound of formula (α) to yield a sulfinimine derivative of the compound of formula (α);

either

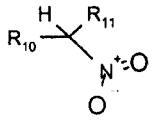
(iva) reacting an organometallic reagent having the R_2 group with the sulfinimine derivative of the compound of formula (α) to yield a ~~desoxy – sulfinamide - hydrocarbyl derivative~~desoxy – sulfinamide - derivative of the compound of formula (α); or

(ivb) reacting an isonitrile reagent of formula



where R_{12} is unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted aryl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted benzyl unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl ester, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl ester, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl sulfone or unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl nitrile with the sulfinimine derivative of the compound of formula (α) to yield a ~~desoxy – amino - hydrocarbyl derivative~~desoxy – amine derivative of the compound of formula (α); or

(ivc) reacting an nitro alkyl reagent of formula

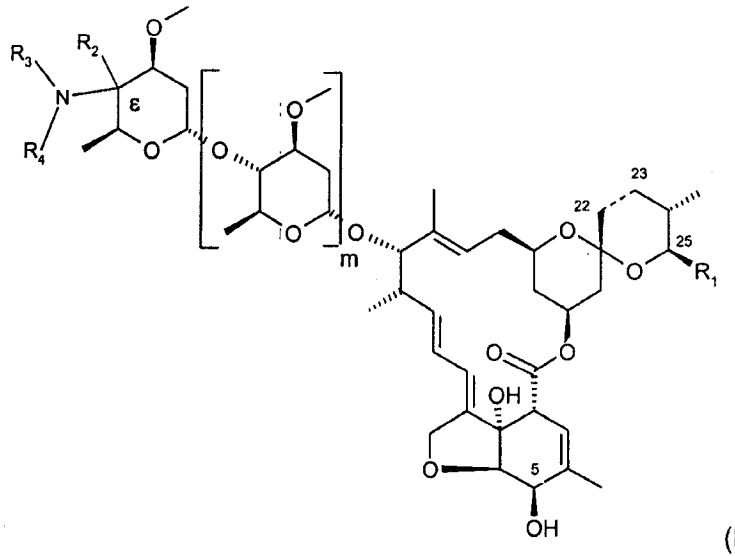


where R_{10} and R_{11} are independently of each other, H, CN, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted aryl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted benzyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl ester, an unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl ester, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl sulfone or unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl nitrile with the sulfinimine derivative of the compound of formula (α) to yield a ~~desoxy – amino - hydrocarbyl derivative~~desoxy – amine derivative of the compound of formula (α); and

either

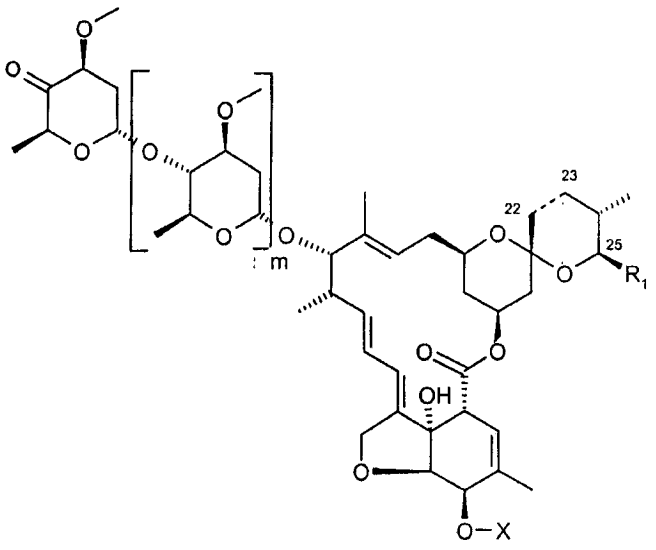
(va) removing the sulfinyl group and protecting group Q either in one step or sequentially one after another to yield a compound of formula (I), where R_3 and R_4 each represent hydrogen, or
(vb) removing the sulfinyl group alone, carrying out reactions on one or more of the R_2, R_3 and R_4 groups to modify the group and then removing the protecting group Q to yield a compound of formula (I), or
(vc) removing the protecting group Q if the sulfinyl group is removed during (iva) or (ivb) or (ivc) to yield a compound of formula (I).

3. (Currently Amended): A process for preparing a compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein R_1, R_2, R_3, R_4, the bond between the carbon atoms 22 and 23 and m are as defined in claim 1, comprising the steps of:
(i) synthesizing a compound of formula (β)



(β)

wherein R_1, the bond between the carbon atoms 22 and 23 and m is as defined for formula (I) in claim 1 and X is H or Q, where Q is a protecting group;

(ii) reacting N-R_4hydroxylamine or salt thereof with a compound of formula (β) to yield a nitrone derivative of the compound of formula (β);

either

(iiia) reacting an organometallic or a silyl reagent having the R_2 group with nitrone derivative of the compound of formula (β) to yield a ~~desoxy – N-R_4hydroxylamino - hydrocarbyl derivative~~desoxy – N-R_4hydroxylamino derivative of the compound of formula (β), where R_4 is as defined for formula (I) in claim 1, or

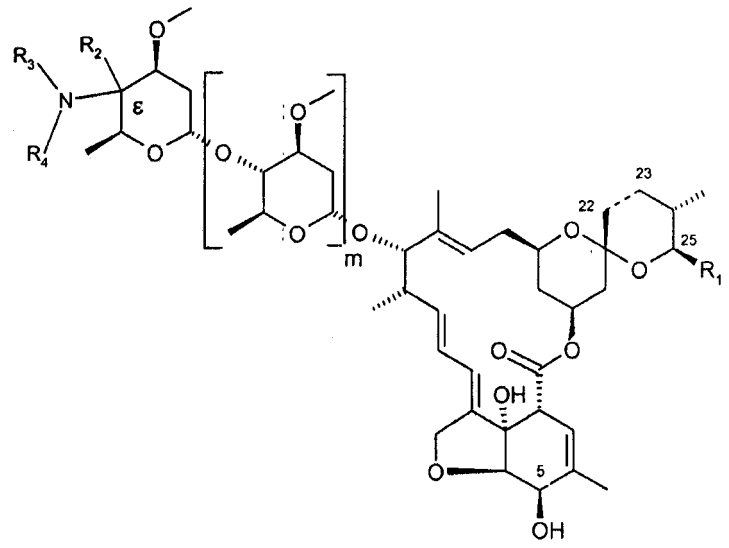
(iiib) reacting an alkene or an alkyne derivative with the nitrone derivative of the compound of formula (β) to yield a desoxy – N-isoxazolidine derivative or 2,3-dihydro-isoxazole derivative respectively of the compound of formula (β); and

either

(iva) removing the protecting group Q, if present, to yield a compound of formula (I), where R_3 is OH in the event of reaction step (iiia), or where R_2 and R_3 is an alkylene or alkenylene bridge with a CH_2 group replaced by an oxygen atom in the event of reaction step (iiib), or

(ivb) carrying out reactions on one or more of R_2, R_3 and R_4 groups to modify the group and removing the protecting group Q, if present, to yield a compound of formula (I).

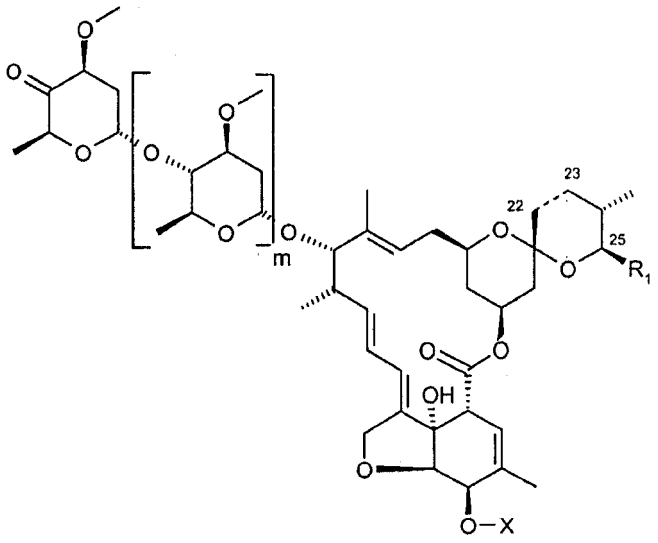
4. (Original): A process for preparing a compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein R_1, R_3, R_4, the bond between the carbon atoms 22 and 23 and m are as defined in claim 1 and R_2 is CN, comprising the steps of:

(i) synthesizing a compound of formula (β)



(β)

wherein R_1, the bond between the carbon atoms 22 and 23 and m is as defined in for formula (I) in claim 1 and X is H or Q, where Q is a protecting group;

either

(iia) reacting the compound of formula (β) with a silylated amine (having the R_3 and R_4 groups) in presence of a Lewis acid and a trialkylsilyl cyanide, to yield a compound of formula (I) with the

proviso that the oxygen atom at the 5-carbon position is protected, if Q is present, and wherein R_1, R_3, R_4, the bond between the carbon atoms 22 and 23 and m are as defined in claim 1, and R_2 is CN, or

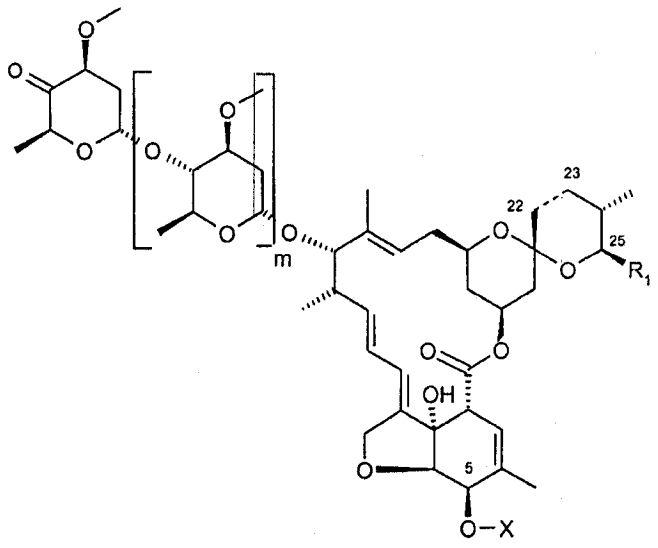
(iib) reacting the compound of formula (β) with an amine of formula R_3R_4NH, a chlorosilane, a Lewis acid and a trialkylsilyl cyanide to yield a compound of formula (I) with the proviso that the oxygen atom at the 5-carbon position is protected, if Q is present, and wherein R_1, R_3, R_4, the bond between the carbon atoms 22 and 23 and m are as defined in claim 1, and R_2 is CN;

(iii) optionally carrying out reactions on one or both of R_3 and R_4 groups to modify the group; and

(iv) removing the protecting group Q, if present, to yield a compound of formula (I);

or

(i) synthesizing a compound of formula (β)



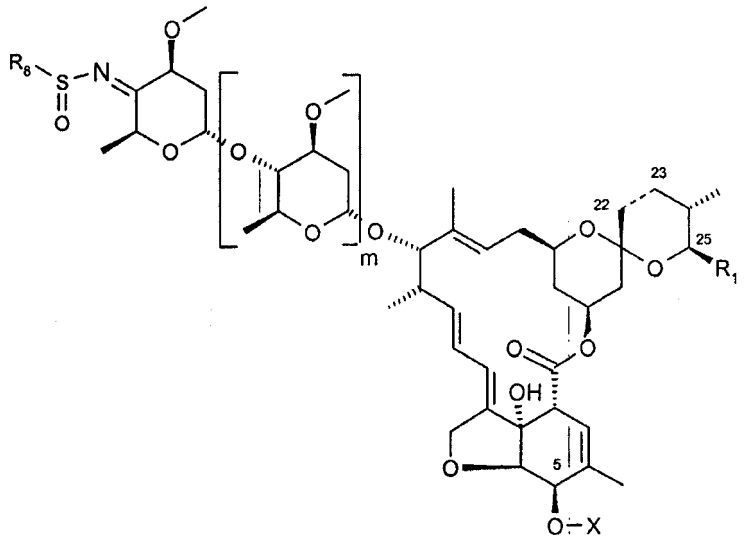
(β)

wherein R_1, the bond between the carbon atoms 22 and 23 and m are as defined for formula (I) in claim 1 and X is H or Q, where Q is a protecting group;

(ii) reacting the compound of formula (β) with an ammonium salt of formula $R_{18}CO_2^-NH_4^+$, an isocyanide of formula $R_{12}NC$ to yield a compound of formula (I), with the proviso that the oxygen atom at the 5-carbon position is protected, if Q is present in the compound of formula (β), wherein R_1, the bond between the carbon atoms 22 and 23 and m are as defined in claim 1, R_2 is $R_{12}NHC(O)$, and R_4 is $R_{18}C(O)$, R_{18} is H, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_2-C_{12}alkynyl,

unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted aryl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted benzyl, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl ester, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl ester, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl sulfone or unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl nitrile and R_{12} is as defined in claim 2; and (iii) removing the protecting group Q, if present, to yield a compound of formula (I).

5. (Currently Amended): A compound of the formula (III)



(III)

wherein the bond between carbon atoms 22 and 23 indicated with a broken line is a single or double bond,

m is 0 or 1,

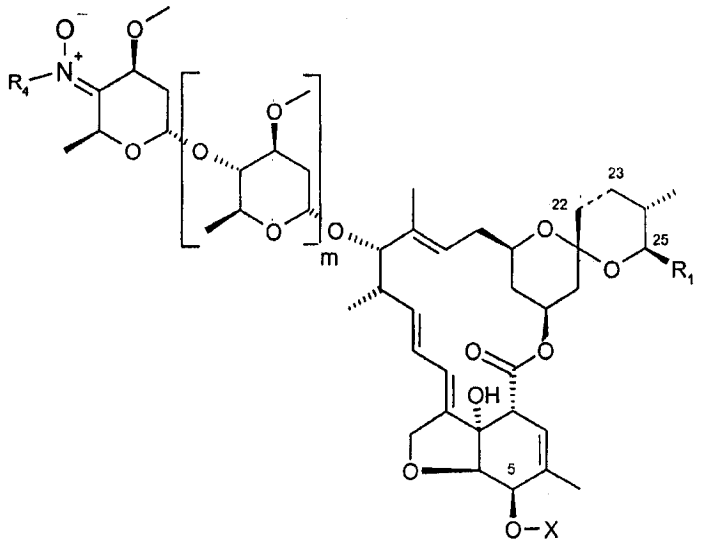
R_1 represents a C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkyl or C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, group,

R_8 represents C_1-C_6alkyl that is optionally substituted with one to five substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_1-C_6alkoxy, hydroxy, cyano, ~~aryl~~phenyl, naphtyl, anthracenyl, phenanthrenyl, perylenyl or fluorenyl, benzyl~~ or heteroaryl~~, which, depending on the possibilities of substitution on the ring, are mono- to trisubstituted by substituents selected from the group consisting of OH, halogen, CN, NO_2, C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_1-C_{12}haloalkyl, C_1-C_{12}alkoxy, C_1-C_{12}haloalkoxy, C_1-C_{12}alkylthio and C_1-C_{12}haloalkylthio, and

X represents H or Q, where Q is a suitable protecting group to prevent reaction on the oxygen atom at the 5-carbon position;

or, if appropriate, an E/Z isomer and/or diastereoisomer and/or tautomer of the compound of formula (III), in each case in free form or in salt form.

6. (Currently Amended): A compound of the formula (V)



(V)

wherein the bond between carbon atoms 22 and 23 indicated with a broken line is a single or double bond,

m is 0 or 1,

R_1 represents a C_1-C_{12}alkyl, C_3-C_8cycloalkyl or C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, group,

R_4 represents ~~a chemical constituent~~H, unsubstituted or mono- to pentasubstituted C_1-C_{12}alkyl, unsubstituted on mono- to pentasubstituted C_3-C_{12}cycloalkyl, unsubstituted or mono-to pentasubstituted C_2-C_{12}alkenyl, unsubstituted or mono-to pentasubstituted C_2-C_{12}alkynyl, and

X represents H or Q, where Q is a suitable protecting group to prevent reaction on the oxygen atom at the 5-carbon position; or, if appropriate, an E/Z isomer and/or diastereoisomer and/or tautomer of the compound of formula (V), in each case in free form or in salt form.

7. (Previously presented): A pesticidal composition comprising at least one compound of the formula (I), as defined in claim 1, as an active compound, and at least one auxiliary.

8. (Previously presented): A method for controlling pests comprising applying a composition defined in claim 7 to the pests or their habitat.

9. - 11 (Cancelled).

12. (Original): A method for protecting plant propagation material comprising treating the propagation material, or the location where the propagation material is planted, with a composition defined in claim 7.

13. (Previously presented): A pest resistant plant propagation material having adhered thereto at least one compound of the formula (I), as defined in claim 1.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Previously presented): A pesticidal composition comprising at least one compound of the formula (III), as defined in claim 5, as an active compound, and at least one auxiliary.

16. (Previously presented): A pesticidal composition comprising at least one compound of the formula (V), as defined in claim 6, as an active compound, and at least one auxiliary.

17. (Previously presented): A method for controlling pests comprising applying a composition defined in claim 15 to the pests or their habitat.

18. (Previously presented): A method for controlling pests comprising applying a composition defined in claim 16 to the pests or their habitat.

19. (Previously presented): A method for protecting plant propagation material comprising treating the propagation material, or the location where the propagation material is planted, with a composition defined in claim 15.

20. (Previously presented): A method for protecting plant propagation material comprising treating the propagation material, or the location where the propagation material is planted, with a composition defined in claim 16.

21. (Previously presented): A method for protecting plant propagation material comprising treating the propagation material, or the location where the propagation material is planted, with a composition defined in claim 5.

22. (Previously presented): A method for protecting plant propagation material comprising treating the propagation material, or the location where the propagation material is planted, with a composition defined in claim 6.